



A Message from the Homeless Initiative



WELCOME TO THE FALL 2018 ISSUE OF *From Homelessness to Housing:* *Measure H Quarterly Update.*

We are in the midst of a critical movement to combat and prevent homelessness across Los Angeles County. Since the passage of Measure H, the County has accelerated its mission-critical work to address this most pressing humanitarian crisis.

Thousands of families and individuals - including veterans and young people - have been directly helped with permanent housing placements, rental subsidies, benefits assistance, intensive case management and much more. At the same time, shelter beds have been increased and new outreach teams have hit the streets to connect our most vulnerable residents with a broadening array of services.

The Homeless Initiative's 11th quarterly report includes 15 months of Measure H outcomes and shows that we are making widespread progress in the County's fight against homelessness.

This is a community-wide undertaking, made possible only through sustained collaboration among dedicated service providers, County departments, civic leaders, cities, business, labor, faith-based institutions and community coalitions —and a galvanized public—who share the mission to prevent and combat homelessness in L.A. County.

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Leading technology companies are joining our effort and have already shared 50 innovative ideas to help advance our work. Homeless service providers have filled almost 1,500 new jobs

across the region to bolster the delivery system. 41 cities from across the County have developed city-specific homelessness plans. The Housing Innovation Challenge is poised to award \$4.5 million for creative and scalable permanent housing solutions. And the community is embracing the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal to channel

outreach support wherever it's needed.

The Measure H Quarterly Update will keep you apprised of the progress we are making; it is just one aspect of our commitment to rigorous accountability and transparency. Visit our website homeless.lacounty.gov/ for more information and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/LACountyHomelessInitiative/

Thank you for being a part of this important effort. Together, we can bring our homeless neighbors home and create lasting change.



The Los Angeles County
HOMELESS INITIATIVE
REAL HELP. LASTING CHANGE.

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Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
County of Los Angeles



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homeless.lacounty.gov



[@CountyHomelessInitiative](https://facebook.com/LACountyHomelessInitiative)

Recent Activities

Measure H Community Listening Sessions

The Homeless Initiative is fundamentally collaborative and inclusive. Each phase of the process—strategy creation, design, implementation, budget recommendations, and oversight—has been participatory and reflective of participation by a broad group of stakeholders. In October, as directed by the Board of Supervisors, we launched the process to develop final Measure H funding recommendations for FY 2019-20 (Year 3),



based on the tentative budget allocations developed by the 50-member stakeholder group and approved by the Board of Supervisors in the spring of 2017. Thus far, this process has included a kick-off webinar and community listening sessions in all eight Service Planning Areas across the County to garner input. Heading into 2019, this transparent funding recommendations process will include a community webinar, public hearing and online public comment period in March.

L.A. County Engages Tech Industry

In conjunction with the Chief Information Office, we launched a new initiative to enlist the technology industry in our Countywide effort. In a bold move to harness the resources and expertise of tech companies and foster more strategic investment in the sector, L.A. County issued a call for solutions with the potential to creatively accelerate outcomes for people experiencing homelessness. The goal is to cultivate diverse partners and new approaches to deliver what's working more effectively and to foster inspired thinking and sustainable solutions around housing, data, customer

empowerment and operational effectiveness.

A broad representation of companies – including large data and tech companies, civic tech, start-ups, digital services, virtual reality firms and academia – have already signaled their strong interest in partnering on this critical effort. Dozens of companies participated in a County-hosted technology innovation forum on homelessness in October and have shared 50 innovative ideas thus far to help advance our work. A Request for Proposals based on the most promising ideas will be released soon.

LA-HOP Gets Animated

This summer, we launched the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA-HOP), the new Countywide Web-based portal that channels outreach support to people experiencing homelessness. Funded by Measure H, the first-of-its-kind mobile-friendly platform empowers members of the public, first responders, business owners, elected officials and government employees to provide information on homeless persons they encounter in their communities and request outreach. More than 3,100 requests have been submitted via LA-HOP since its inception.



To learn more about LA-HOP and encourage its utilization, we created a dynamic video: vimeo.com/295912686/5a1be8e69a.

As a next step, we are creating additional versions of the video with on-screen text and translated voiceover in Spanish, Chinese and Korean. Please utilize la-hop.org and share it among your networks.

Advisory Board Welcomes New Member

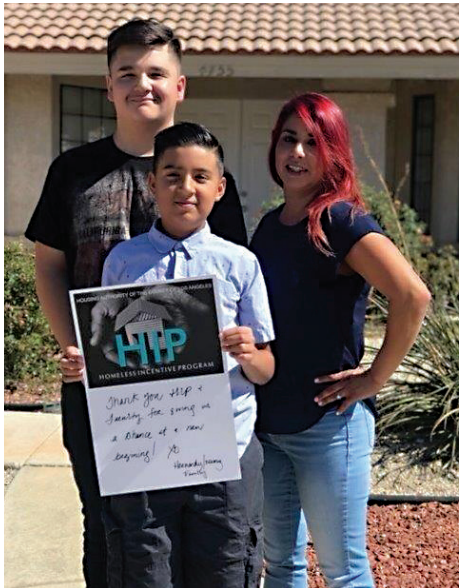
The Measure H Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board – a crucial component of the accountability built into Measure H – welcomed Rabbi Marvin Gross as its newest member, appointed by L.A. County Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Gross replaced outgoing appointee Greg Morrow. Rabbi Gross has more than

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Mercedes Márquez | 1st District |
| Renata Simril | 2nd District |
| Christine Margiotta | 3rd District |
| Andrew Kerr | 4th District |
| Rabbi Marvin Gross | 5th District |

40 years experience as a nonprofit executive, congregational rabbi, community and political organizer, fundraiser and social justice advocate, including 21 years of service as the CEO of Union Station Homeless Services, the largest and most comprehensive agency of its kind in the San Gabriel Valley. Among his interests are homelessness and poverty alleviation, leadership development, and organizational growth and sustainability.

Measure H Success Stories



"My children and I are blessed to be in a safe, wonderful, new environment!"

Elizabeth Hernandez: Family Embraces New Home

Elizabeth Hernandez is a single mother of four children. Not having a stable job affected her finances and ability to obtain child care for her children, factors that put her at risk of becoming homeless. Elizabeth battles with stress and anxiety when things do not seem to be working out. The greatest challenge she faced was locating a suitable home for her family in a safe area, especially since she lacked income to pay a security deposit and application fees. Elizabeth received supportive services through Los Angeles Family Housing, and with their assistance, ultimately obtained a Section 8 voucher. Additionally, she utilized the housing locator services provided through CDC/HACoLA's Homeless Incentive Program (HIP). Elizabeth was very pleased with the efficiency of the staff, the personal assistance she received, and the availability of units through the HIP program. She leased an apartment in June 2018.

A Fresh Start From Jail In Reach

The client is a 31-year old Hispanic male, who had been homeless for 15 years with no social support. He had been in and out of Juvenile Hall as a youth and had multiple

incarcerations as an adult and a history of ADHD, PTSD, bipolar disorder and methamphetamine use. During his latest incarceration at Men's Central Jail, he was provided with Project 180 services, which included a thorough assessment and a client-centered care plan that included arranged interim/bridge housing upon release. Upon his release from jail in September 2018, the client was transported to the parole office and then to a Volunteers Of America shelter. At the shelter, he was connected with employment services and mental health and substance abuse treatment, and was provided clothing and weekly bus passes to seek additional community resources.



"I've never heard of a program that assists people like me. I recommend this to any inmates in L.A. County jail that are serious about recovery and one more chance. Project 180 will be there for you."

Additionally, his case manager assisted the client with obtaining his California I.D. and public benefits. As a result of this assistance, the client obtained employment in September through a training program and is now a permanent full-time employee. He has moved from the VOA shelter to Victory Starts First, a sober living unit in South Los Angeles. The client continues to go to substance use and mental health treatment on a weekly basis and has been clean since being released from jail.

Kamesha Christopher: Thriving In A New Home



Kamesha Christopher had been homeless for two years. She is a 45-year old single mother with an 11-year old son. Kamesha lost her job one day, and with no safety net, she could no longer afford to pay rent. Luckily, she was on the Los Angeles County Section 8 waiting list, and because she was homeless, she received a Housing Choice Voucher. The Homeless Incentive Program (HIP) was able to step in and provide Kamesha with housing listings through their housing navigation services staff. In addition, HIP provided her with financial assistance for a security deposit. With HIP's assistance, Kamesha was able to find a unit in her desired area of Lakewood, California. In September, she leased and moved into her new home.

Learn more about Kamesha's story:
<https://vimeo.com/301660275>



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If Measure H has made a difference in your life, please share your story with us:

homelessinitiative@lacounty.gov

Strategy Implementation Updates

Los Angeles County's Homeless Initiative is a broad-based action plan with interconnected strategies to effectively combat and prevent homelessness. These updates demonstrate the promise and significant progress of this critical initiative.

Among many early successes, key Homeless Initiative outcomes include the following:

Permanently Housed Through Measure H Strategies

A total of 9,635 families and individuals were permanently housed through specific Measure H strategies since July 1, 2017. In the first quarter of FY 2018-19, 2,187 families and individuals were permanently housed.

A1 AND A5: Homeless Prevention Program for Families and Individuals

277 new families were assisted with prevention services through the Family Solutions Centers. Of those, 53 families exited the program and 36 (68 percent) either retained their housing or transitioned into other permanent housing.

330 new individuals were assisted with prevention services. Of those, 139 individuals exited the program and 128 either retained their housing or transitioned into other permanent housing.

B3: Partner With Cities to Expand Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

603 RRH participants moved into housing and 448 participants exited the program to permanent housing.

B4: Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies

The County provided \$517,771 in incentives to landlords to help secure 259 units for housing voucher recipients.

B7: Interim/Bridge Housing for those Exiting Institutions

990 individuals discharged from jails, hospitals and other institutions were provided interim housing.

C4/C5/C6: Establish a Countywide SSI and Veterans Benefits Advocacy Program for People Experiencing Homelessness or at Risk of Homelessness

Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services Teams assisted 1,028 new disabled individuals to begin the process of applying for SSI or Veterans Disability Benefits.

D2: Expansion of Jail In-Reach

352 inmates received D2 Jail In-Reach services.

D6: Criminal Record Clearing Project

There were 33 Countywide record clearing clinics convened during this reporting period with participation from the Public Defender (PD) and the Los Angeles City Attorney (CA) (due to program "ramp-up" the CA participated in 7 of the clinics). The PD engaged 257 clients with non violent/nonserious crimes and filed 205 petitions for dismissal or reduction; 153 petitions filed by the PD (including some filed last FY have been granted so far. The CA engaged 264 clients with citations/infractions and filed

189 petitions for dismissal or reduction; 370 petitions filed by the CA (including some filed last FY) have been granted to date.

D7: Provide Services and Rental Subsidies for Permanent Supportive Housing

1,323 clients were linked to new Intensive Case Management Services slots, 400 clients received federal rental subsidies, 375 clients received local rental subsidies, and 817 clients were placed in permanent housing.

E4: First Responders Training

During this reporting period, 146 Sheriff personnel, 13 non-Sheriff law enforcement personnel, and 139 non-law enforcement first responders received Homeless First Responder Training.

E6: Countywide Outreach System

2,432 individuals were newly engaged by Countywide Outreach Teams and 7,507 individuals were engaged by Countywide Outreach Teams (including some who had also been engaged in previous reporting periods). Teams connected 3,052 individuals to services, placed 300 individuals into interim housing, and linked 263 individuals to a permanent housing program.

E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System

4,200 individuals entered crisis, bridge, and interim housing funded in whole or in part by Measure H. During the same period of time, 786 individuals exited interim housing to permanent housing.

E14: Enhanced Services for Transition Age Youth

26 TAY participants exited transitional housing to permanent housing and 72 TAY participants obtained employment.

**All highlights feature the first quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 unless noted otherwise.*